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Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

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R 101821Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3493
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 0283

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, PE
SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER ATTACKS TRA "AS IMPERIALISTIC ECONOMIC AGGRESSION"

REF: LIMA 0160

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. DURING SPEECH ON JANUARY 9 DEDICATING HISTORIC FORTRESS AT CALLAO, PRIME MINISTER MERCADO JARRIN CALLED TRA AN EXAMPLE OF "IMPERIALISTIC ECONOMIC AGGRESSION" WHICH REQUIRES UNITED ACTION ON PART OF ALL LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT TRA IS AN EFFORT TO PRESSURE THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES TO CHANGE THEIR POLICIES ON USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES WHICH INVOLVES "A TEST OF FORCE IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, THROUGH INDIRECT MEANS, WHICH IS NO LESS AGGRESSIVE THAN MILITARY CONFRONTATION." HE ADDED THAT SINCE NUCLEAR WAR WOULD LEAD TO MASSIVE DESTRUCTION, THE ECONOMIC STRATEGY OF SUPER POWERS IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH SMALL COUNTRIES INVOLVES AN EFFORT TO DENY THE LATTER FREEDOM
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OF ACTION FOR THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THE TRA IS A

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SPECIFIC CASE OF "DOMINANT PRESSURE," HE SAID.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER CONTINUED THAT, IN FACE OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, "WE CANNOT BELIEVE IN A NEW DIALOGUE WHILE ONE UNDERTAKES A POLICY OF ECONOMIC PRESSURE." THE THEN CITED TRA AS A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE OF THE KIND OF CASE OF INTERVENTION OR ECONOMIC AGGRESSION WHICH HAS BROUGHT ABOUT AN INCREASE IN THE NEED FOR COLLECTIVE ECONOMIC SECURITY AND THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TREATY ON RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE, A NEED WHICH CANNOT BE POSTPONED. END UNCLASSIFIED:

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3. COMMENT: PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT WAS COUCHED IN SOMEWHAT STRONGER TERMS THAN PRESIDENT VELASCO'S MESSAGES TO PRESIDENTS PEREZ AND RODRIGUEZ (SEE REFTEL). THE PRIME MINISTER, HOWEVER, WAS CAREFUL NOT TO COMMENT ON POTENTIAL GOP ATTENDANCE AT BUENOS AIRES FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING, AND WE PRESUME GOP WILL AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOP-MENTS BEFORE MAKING FINAL DECISION. IN THIS REGARD, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL REASPONSIBLE FOR RADE POLICY SAID THAT THE MINISTRY IS ACTIVELY STUDYING THE LAW. IT IS THEREFORE POSSIBLE THAT AN OFFICIAL PRONOUNCE-MENT FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY MAY BE FORTHCOMING IN THE NEAR FUTURE AS WELL.
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